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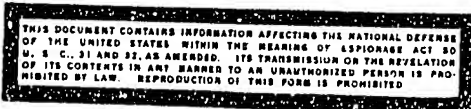
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# DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN THE DEMOCRAT PARTY OF TURKEY

[Comment: The following report, taken from Turkish newspapers for the period 4 February - 2 March 1953, discusses rumored and actual expulsion of deputies from the DP (Democrat Party), rumors of a cabinet shake-up, and a report of the settlement of a long-standing dispute in the Istanbul DP organization.

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## Expulsion of Deputies

On 11 February, Yeni Istanbul reported that the DP Assembly group was considering disciplinary action against the following nine deputies: Omer Bilen, Ankara, for reactionary activities; Burhaneddin Onad, Antalya, for defending nationalists; Ali Fahri Iseri, Balikesir, using his position in the party for personal gains; Feyzi Bostepe, Ordu, for violating party discipline; Feyzi Cubuk, Tokat, for having an unsavory reputation; Gazi Yigitbasi, Afyon, for reactionary activities; Sait Kantarel, Kastamonu, for irregular conduct; Ahmet Garkan, Tokat, for reactionary activities; and Irfan Aksu, Isparta, for being connected with the Turkish Nationalists Society. According to the paper, a list of 15 other deputies was also being prepared for submission to the DP General Disciplinary Court (1) On 12 February, Vatan said that 14 DP deputies were to be expelled from the party, listing by name Bostepe, Cubuk, Kantarel, Garkan, Yigitbasi, Iseri, and Suleyman Kuranel of Gaziantep. (2) Another deputy slated for expulsion, according to Yeni Istanbul of 26 February, is Nazim Agaccikoglu of Sivas. (3)

Previously, on 3 February, the DP Disciplinary Court had expelled Kazim Arar and Kemal Atakurt, both deputies for Cankiri, for using his position in the party for personal gains, according to Vatan of 4 February. (4) And on 18 February, Ulus reported that Omer Evci, one of the founders of the DP and a member of the DP General Assembly, had been expelled from the party by the DP Provincial Disciplinary Court in Yozgat for having created a spirit of defeatism within the party. (5)

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On 20 February, Vatan reported that the rumors concerning the imminent expulsion of Iseri and Yigitbasi had been confirmed the previous day when the DP General Administrative Committee had ordered the two to appear before the DP General Disciplinary Court.(6) On 26 February, the same paper reported that in anticipation of his expulsion, Iseri had announced his resignation from the DP. It is believed that Iseri will join the Peasants Party, the paper added, since he was accompanied by a deputy of that party when he announced his resignation to the press.(7)

According to Cumhuriyet of 28 February, the charges against Yigitbasi are that he had connections with reactionary activities, that he had close relations with followers of Bediuzzaman Sait Nursi [a well-known religious reactionary], that he cooperated with Cevat Rifat Atilhan [founder and president of the banned Islamic Democrat Party], and that he used religion as a tool for politics. The paper added that the DP General Disciplinary Court had appointed a three-man subcommittee to study the charges, the members of which are Osman Kavrakoglu, Huseyin Ulku, and Haluk Okeren.(8) On 22 February, Vatan reported that on the previous day, a group of Nursi supporters from his home district of Emirdagi had visited Kemal Kutbas, DP chairman of Afyon Province, to protest the action being taken against Yigitbasi.(9) However, on 1 March, the same paper said that action against Yigitbasi had been generally well received in Afyon. It quoted Gunduz Kanyak, a member of the DP Executive Committee of Afyon Province, as saying that while some members might resign because of Yigitbasi's expulsion, the party would be amply compensated by the gained support of independents. According to Kanyak, continued the paper, Yigitbasi, once a clerk in a court of Bolvadin District and later a grocer, is the only reason why Nursi has any influence in the Bolvadin area.(10)

#### Possible Cabinet Changes

On 11 February, Vatan pointed out that in a speech before the DP Advisory Council on 9 February, Tevfik Ileri, Education Minister, had claimed that there was no reaction in the country but only ignorance and had refrained from saying anything which rejected racialistic and nationalistic organizations and their activities. Political circles feel, commented Vatan, that Ileri has either committed political suicide or has announced his candidacy for the head of leader of the reactionary forces.(11) On 2 March, Vatan reported rumors to the effect that an imminent shake-up of the Menderes cabinet would eliminate Ileri. Others also slated to be dropped, added the paper, are Sumet Agacoglu, Minister of Labor; Munir Alankant, Minister of State; Nedim Okmen, Minister of Agriculture; Yumlu Uresin, Minister of Communications, and possibly Seyfi Kurtbek, Minister of National Defense, and Kemal Aydinoglu, Minister of Public Works. According to Vatan, it was rumored that Dr Ehren Hayri Vatandaş, the present Minister of Health, will become Minister of Labor. Vatan said that the names most frequently mentioned for ministerial posts are Fehri Lutfi Karadenizoglu, Fethi Celilhan, Emin Kalafat, Dr Mehmed Suroi, and Ismail Uluhan (12)

#### Internal Dispute

According to Vatan of 12 February, factionalism and internal disputes within the DP Istanbul organization have ended after 11 years by an agreement between a group of 30 Municipal Assembly members long hostile to the DP organization and the dominant faction headed by Necmi Ates, who is chairman of the DP Administrative Committee of Istanbul Province. As listed by the paper, among those agreeing to cooperate with Ates are Selahattin Genc, Abdullah Aker, Niyazi Turkey, Ferran Aras, Mustafa Orer, Cahit Evrenos, Haver Berk, Fahri Kiyak, Misbah Uraz, and Neset Akol. In addition, continued the paper, a group of 14 neutrals in the Municipal Assembly will also cooperate with Ates, although some extreme factionalists view the agreement with doubt and predict the formation of a new opposition faction.

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The first result of the agreement, stated Vatan, will be an attempt by the DP Administrative Committee of Istanbul Province to suspend or lighten the expulsion decision handed down by the DP Disciplinary Court of Istanbul Province against Faruk Tansel, Suleyman Telkesen, Orhan Tepe, and Burhan Tepe, all from Besiktas. (2) The second result, according to Vatan of 23 February, is that the party group in the DP General Assembly of Istanbul Province has started to function again. The paper said Salahattin Karayavuz had been elected group chairman and Arif Neset Usman, group secretary. (13)

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1. Istanbul, Yeni Istanbul, 11 Feb 53
2. Istanbul, Vatan, 12 Feb 53
3. Yeni Istanbul, 26 Feb 53
4. Vatan, 4 Feb 53
5. Ankara, Ulus, 18 Feb 53
6. Vatan, 20 Feb 53
7. Ibid, 26 Feb 53
8. Istanbul, Cumhuriyet, 28 Feb 53
9. Vatan, 22 Feb 53
10. Ibid, 1 Mar 53
11. Ibid, 11 Feb 53
12. Ibid, 2 Mar 53
13. Ibid, 23 Feb 53

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